

# HOUSE BILL No. 1241

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 16-27-2-1; IC 16-42-19-5; IC 25-22.5; IC 25-27.5.

**Synopsis:** Physician assistants. Authorizes a physician to delegate to a physician assistant duties that are within the supervising physician's scope of practice, including prescribing and dispensing drugs and medical devices. Requires the patient to be seen by the physician in certain circumstances. Changes references from certification to licensure of physician assistants. Makes certain other changes concerning the physician assistant committee and licensure of physician assistants.

**Effective:** July 1, 2007.

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**Welch, Brown T, Brown C**

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January 11, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Health.

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First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1241

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. IC 16-27-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
2       FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 1. As used in this  
3       chapter, "health care professional" means any of the following:

- 4       (1) A licensed physician or a ~~physician's~~ **physician** assistant (as  
5       defined in IC 25-22.5-1-1.1).
- 6       (2) A dentist licensed under IC 25-14.
- 7       (3) A chiropractor licensed under IC 25-10-1.
- 8       (4) A podiatrist licensed under IC 25-29.
- 9       (5) An optometrist licensed under IC 25-24.
- 10      (6) A nurse licensed under IC 25-23-1.
- 11      (7) A physical therapist licensed under IC 25-27 or a physical  
12      therapy assistant certified under IC 25-27.
- 13      (8) A speech language pathologist or an audiologist licensed  
14      under IC 25-35.6-3.
- 15      (9) A speech language pathology aide or an audiology aide (as  
16      defined in IC 25-35.6-1-2).
- 17      (10) An:



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- 1 (A) occupational therapist; or  
 2 (B) occupational therapist assistant;  
 3 certified under IC 25-23.5.  
 4 (11) A social worker licensed under IC 25-23.6 or a clinical social  
 5 worker licensed under IC 25-23.6.  
 6 (12) A pharmacist licensed under IC 25-26-13.  
 7 SECTION 2. IC 16-42-19-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.157-2006,  
 8 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 9 JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "practitioner" means  
 10 any of the following:  
 11 (1) A licensed physician.  
 12 (2) A veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in  
 13 Indiana.  
 14 (3) A dentist licensed to practice dentistry in Indiana.  
 15 (4) A podiatrist licensed to practice podiatric medicine in Indiana.  
 16 (5) An optometrist who is:  
 17 (A) licensed to practice optometry in Indiana; and  
 18 (B) certified under IC 25-24-3.  
 19 (6) An advanced practice nurse who meets the requirements of  
 20 IC 25-23-1-19.5.  
 21 **(7) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5 who is**  
 22 **delegated prescriptive authority under IC 25-27.5-5-6.**  
 23 SECTION 3. IC 25-22.5-1-1.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2006,  
 24 SECTION 444, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 1.1. As used in this article:  
 26 (a) "Practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine" means any one  
 27 (1) or a combination of the following:  
 28 (1) Holding oneself out to the public as being engaged in:  
 29 (A) the diagnosis, treatment, correction, or prevention of any  
 30 disease, ailment, defect, injury, infirmity, deformity, pain, or  
 31 other condition of human beings;  
 32 (B) the suggestion, recommendation, or prescription or  
 33 administration of any form of treatment, without limitation;  
 34 (C) the performing of any kind of surgical operation upon a  
 35 human being, including tattooing, except for tattooing (as  
 36 defined in IC 35-42-2-7), in which human tissue is cut, burned,  
 37 or vaporized by the use of any mechanical means, laser, or  
 38 ionizing radiation, or the penetration of the skin or body orifice  
 39 by any means, for the intended palliation, relief, or cure; or  
 40 (D) the prevention of any physical, mental, or functional  
 41 ailment or defect of any person.  
 42 (2) The maintenance of an office or a place of business for the

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reception, examination, or treatment of persons suffering from disease, ailment, defect, injury, infirmity, deformity, pain, or other conditions of body or mind.

(3) Attaching the designation "doctor of medicine", "M.D.", "doctor of osteopathy", "D.O.", "osteopathic medical physician", "physician", "surgeon", or "physician and surgeon", either alone or in connection with other words, or any other words or abbreviations to a name, indicating or inducing others to believe that the person is engaged in the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine (as defined in this section).

(4) Providing diagnostic or treatment services to a person in Indiana when the diagnostic or treatment services:

(A) are transmitted through electronic communications; and

(B) are on a regular, routine, and nonepisodic basis or under an oral or written agreement to regularly provide medical services.

In addition to the exceptions described in section 2 of this chapter, a nonresident physician who is located outside Indiana does not practice medicine or osteopathy in Indiana by providing a second opinion to a licensee or diagnostic or treatment services to a patient in Indiana following medical care originally provided to the patient while outside Indiana.

(b) "Board" refers to the medical licensing board of Indiana.

(c) "Diagnose or diagnosis" means to examine a patient, parts of a patient's body, substances taken or removed from a patient's body, or materials produced by a patient's body to determine the source or nature of a disease or other physical or mental condition, or to hold oneself out or represent that a person is a physician and is so examining a patient. It is not necessary that the examination be made in the presence of the patient; it may be made on information supplied either directly or indirectly by the patient.

(d) "Drug or medicine" means any medicine, compound, or chemical or biological preparation intended for internal or external use of humans, and all substances intended to be used for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, or prevention of diseases or abnormalities of humans, which are recognized in the latest editions published of the United States Pharmacopoeia or National Formulary, or otherwise established as a drug or medicine.

(e) "Licensee" means any individual holding a valid unlimited license issued by the board under this article.

(f) "Prescribe or prescription" means to direct, order, or designate the use of or manner of using a drug, medicine, or treatment, by spoken

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or written words or other means.

(g) "Physician" means any person who holds the degree of doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy or its equivalent and who holds a valid unlimited license to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine in Indiana.

(h) "Medical school" means a nationally accredited college of medicine or of osteopathic medicine approved by the board.

(i) ~~"Physician's"~~ **"Physician"** assistant" means an individual who:

(1) ~~is an employee of supervised by~~ a physician;

(2) ~~is a graduate of a physician's graduated from a physician~~ assistant training program approved by the board; **program accredited by an accrediting agency (as defined in IC 25-27.5-2-4.5);**

(3) ~~has successfully completed the national examination administered by the national commission on the certification of physician's assistants;~~

**(3) passed the examination administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) and maintains licensure; and**

(4) ~~has registered with the board; been licensed by the physician assistant committee under IC 25-27.5.~~

(j) "Agency" refers to the Indiana professional licensing agency under IC 25-1-5.

SECTION 4. IC 25-22.5-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2006, SECTION 106, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. (a) This article, as it relates to the unlawful or unauthorized practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine, does not apply to any of the following:

(1) A student in training in a medical school approved by the board, or while performing duties as an intern or a resident in a hospital under the supervision of the hospital's staff or in a program approved by the medical school.

(2) A person who renders service in case of emergency where no fee or other consideration is contemplated, charged, or received.

(3) A paramedic (as defined in IC 16-18-2-266), an emergency medical technician-basic advanced (as defined in IC 16-18-2-112.5), an emergency medical technician-intermediate (as defined in IC 16-18-2-112.7), an emergency medical technician (as defined in IC 16-18-2-112), or a person with equivalent certification from another state who renders advanced life support (as defined in IC 16-18-2-7) or basic life support (as defined in IC 16-18-2-33.5):

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(A) during a disaster emergency declared by the governor under IC 10-14-3-12 in response to an act that the governor in good faith believes to be an act of terrorism (as defined in IC 35-41-1-26.5); and

(B) in accordance with the rules adopted by the Indiana emergency medical services commission or the disaster emergency declaration of the governor.

(4) Commissioned medical officers or medical service officers of the armed forces of the United States, the United States Public Health Service, and medical officers of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in the discharge of their official duties in Indiana.

(5) An individual who is not a licensee who resides in another state or country and is authorized to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine there, who is called in for consultation by an individual licensed to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine in Indiana.

(6) A person administering a domestic or family remedy to a member of the person's family.

(7) A member of a church practicing the religious tenets of the church if the member does not make a medical diagnosis, prescribe or administer drugs or medicines, perform surgical or physical operations, or assume the title of or profess to be a physician.

(8) A school corporation and a school employee who acts under IC 34-30-14 (or IC 34-4-16.5-3.5 before its repeal).

(9) A chiropractor practicing the chiropractor's profession under IC 25-10 or to an employee of a chiropractor acting under the direction and supervision of the chiropractor under IC 25-10-1-13.

(10) A dental hygienist practicing the dental hygienist's profession under IC 25-13.

(11) A dentist practicing the dentist's profession under IC 25-14.

(12) A hearing aid dealer practicing the hearing aid dealer's profession under IC 25-20.

(13) A nurse practicing the nurse's profession under IC 25-23. However, a registered nurse may administer anesthesia if the registered nurse acts under the direction of and in the immediate presence of a physician and holds a certificate of completion of a course in anesthesia approved by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists or a course approved by the board.

(14) An optometrist practicing the optometrist's profession under IC 25-24.

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(15) A pharmacist practicing the pharmacist's profession under IC 25-26.

(16) A physical therapist practicing the physical therapist's profession under IC 25-27.

(17) A podiatrist practicing the podiatrist's profession under IC 25-29.

(18) A psychologist practicing the psychologist's profession under IC 25-33.

(19) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist practicing the pathologist's or audiologist's profession under IC 25-35.6.

(20) An employee of a physician or group of physicians who performs an act, a duty, or a function that is customarily within the specific area of practice of the employing physician or group of physicians, if the act, duty, or function is performed under the direction and supervision of the employing physician or a physician of the employing group within whose area of practice the act, duty, or function falls. An employee may not make a diagnosis or prescribe a treatment and must report the results of an examination of a patient conducted by the employee to the employing physician or the physician of the employing group under whose supervision the employee is working. An employee may not administer medication without the specific order of the employing physician or a physician of the employing group. Unless an employee is licensed or registered to independently practice in a profession described in subdivisions (9) through (18), nothing in this subsection grants the employee independent practitioner status or the authority to perform patient services in an independent practice in a profession.

(21) A hospital licensed under IC 16-21 or IC 12-25.

(22) A health care organization whose members, shareholders, or partners are individuals, partnerships, corporations, facilities, or institutions licensed or legally authorized by this state to provide health care or professional services as:

(A) a physician;

(B) a psychiatric hospital;

(C) a hospital;

(D) a health maintenance organization or limited service health maintenance organization;

(E) a health facility;

(F) a dentist;

(G) a registered or licensed practical nurse;

(H) a midwife;

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- (I) an optometrist;
- (J) a podiatrist;
- (K) a chiropractor;
- (L) a physical therapist; or
- (M) a psychologist.

(23) A physician assistant practicing the physician ~~assistant's~~ **assistant** profession under IC 25-27.5.

(24) A physician providing medical treatment under IC 25-22.5-1-2.1.

(25) An attendant who provides attendant care services (as defined in IC 16-18-2-28.5).

(26) A personal services attendant providing authorized attendant care services under IC 12-10-17.1.

(b) A person described in subsection (a)(9) through (a)(18) is not excluded from the application of this article if:

- (1) the person performs an act that an Indiana statute does not authorize the person to perform; and
- (2) the act qualifies in whole or in part as the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

(c) An employment or other contractual relationship between an entity described in subsection (a)(21) through (a)(22) and a licensed physician does not constitute the unlawful practice of medicine under this article if the entity does not direct or control independent medical acts, decisions, or judgment of the licensed physician. However, if the direction or control is done by the entity under IC 34-30-15 (or IC 34-4-12.6 before its repeal), the entity is excluded from the application of this article as it relates to the unlawful practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

(d) This subsection does not apply to a prescription or drug order for a legend drug that is filled or refilled in a pharmacy owned or operated by a hospital licensed under IC 16-21. A physician licensed in Indiana who permits or authorizes a person to fill or refill a prescription or drug order for a legend drug except as authorized in IC 16-42-19-11 through IC 16-42-19-19 is subject to disciplinary action under IC 25-1-9. A person who violates this subsection commits the unlawful practice of medicine under this chapter.

(e) A person described in subsection (a)(8) shall not be authorized to dispense contraceptives or birth control devices.

SECTION 5. IC 25-22.5-8-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. (a) A person who violates this article by unlawfully practicing medicine or osteopathic medicine commits a Class C felony.

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(b) A person who practices midwifery without the license required under this article commits a Class D felony.

(c) A person who acts as a ~~physician's~~ **physician** assistant without registering with the board as ~~license~~ required under this article **IC 25-27.5** commits a Class D felony.

SECTION 6. IC 25-27.5-1-2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 2. This article grants a supervising physician or physician designee the authority to delegate, as the physician determines is appropriate, those tasks or services the physician typically performs and is qualified to perform.**

SECTION 7. IC 25-27.5-1-3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 3. This article does not grant authority to a physician assistant to function independently of a physician's supervision.**

SECTION 8. IC 25-27.5-2-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 1.5. "Administer a drug" means the direct application of a drug, whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, to the body of a patient.**

SECTION 9. IC 25-27.5-2-7.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 7.3. "Dispense" means issuing medical devices or one (1) or more doses of a drug in a suitable container with appropriate labeling for subsequent administration to or use by a patient.**

SECTION 10. IC 25-27.5-2-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 10. "Physician assistant" means an individual who has:**

- (1) graduated from a physician assistant or surgeon assistant program accredited by an accrediting agency;
- (2) passed the certifying examination administered by the NCCPA and maintains certification by the NCCPA; and
- (3) been ~~certified~~ **licensed** by the committee.

SECTION 11. IC 25-27.5-2-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 11. "Physician designee" means a physician who works or is trained in the same practice area as the practice area of the supervising physician, to whom responsibility for the supervision of a physician assistant is temporarily designated when the supervising physician is unavailable.**

SECTION 12. IC 25-27.5-3-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 2. (a) The committee**

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consists of five (5) members appointed by the governor for terms of three (3) years.

(b) The committee must include the following:

(1) Three (3) physician assistants who:

(A) are residents of Indiana;

(B) have at least three (3) years experience as physician assistants; and

(C) are ~~certified~~ **licensed** under this article.

(2) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 who is familiar with the practice of physician assistants.

(3) An individual who:

(A) is a resident of Indiana; and

(B) is not associated with physician assistants in any way other than as a consumer.

SECTION 13. IC 25-27.5-3-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 5. **(a) The committee shall have regular meetings, called upon the request of the president or by a majority of the members appointed to the committee, for the transaction of business that comes before the committee under this article. At the first committee meeting of each calendar year, the committee shall elect a president and any other officer considered necessary by the committee by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to the committee.**

**(b) Three (3) members of the committee constitute a quorum. A quorum is required for the committee to take action on any business.**

**(c) The committee shall do the following:**

(1) Consider the qualifications of individuals who apply for ~~certificates~~ **an initial license** under this article.

(2) Provide for examinations required under this article.

**(3) Approve or reject license applications.**

**(4) Approve or reject renewal applications.**

**(5) Approve or reject applications for a change or addition of a supervising physician.**

~~(3) Certify qualified individuals.~~

~~(4)~~ **(6)** Propose rules to the board concerning the competent practice of physician assistants and the administration of this article.

~~(5)~~ **(7)** Recommend to the board the amounts of fees required under this article.

SECTION 14. IC 25-27.5-3-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 6. (a) After considering  
 2 the committee's proposed rules, the board shall adopt rules under  
 3 IC 4-22-2 establishing standards for the following:

- 4 (1) The competent practice of physician assistants.
- 5 (2) The renewal of ~~certificates~~ **licenses** issued under this article.
- 6 (3) Standards for the administration of this article.

7 (b) After considering the committee's recommendations for fees, the  
 8 board shall establish fees under IC 25-1-8-2.

9 SECTION 15. IC 25-27.5-4-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 10 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 1. An individual must  
 11 be ~~certified~~ **licensed** by the committee before the individual may  
 12 practice as a physician assistant. The committee may grant a ~~certificate~~  
 13 **license** as a physician assistant to an applicant who does the following:

- 14 (1) Submits an application on forms approved by the committee.
- 15 (2) Pays the fee established by the board.
- 16 (3) Has:
  - 17 (A) successfully completed an educational program for
  - 18 physician assistants or surgeon assistants accredited by an
  - 19 accrediting agency; and
  - 20 (B) passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying
  - 21 Examination administered by the NCCPA and maintains
  - 22 current NCCPA certification.
- 23 (4) Submits to the committee any other information the committee
- 24 considers necessary to evaluate the applicant's qualifications.
- 25 (5) Presents satisfactory evidence to the committee that the
- 26 individual has not been:
  - 27 (A) engaged in an act that would constitute grounds for a
  - 28 disciplinary sanction under IC 25-1-9; or
  - 29 (B) the subject of a disciplinary action by a licensing or
  - 30 certification agency of another state or jurisdiction on the
  - 31 grounds that the individual was not able to practice as a
  - 32 physician assistant without endangering the public.

33 SECTION 16. IC 25-27.5-4-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. The committee may  
 35 refuse to issue a ~~certificate~~ **license** or may issue a probationary  
 36 ~~certificate~~ **license** to an individual if:

- 37 (1) the individual has been disciplined by an administrative
- 38 agency in another jurisdiction or been convicted for a crime that
- 39 has a direct bearing on the individual's ability to practice
- 40 competently; and
- 41 (2) the committee determines that the act for which the individual
- 42 was disciplined or convicted has a direct bearing on the

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individual's ability to practice as a physician assistant.

SECTION 17. IC 25-27.5-4-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2000, SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 3. (a) If the committee issues a probationary ~~certificate~~ **license** under section 2 of this chapter, the committee may require the individual who holds the ~~certificate~~ **license** to meet at least one (1) of the following conditions:

- (1) Report regularly to the committee upon a matter that is the basis for the probation.
- (2) Limit practice to areas prescribed by the committee.
- (3) Continue or renew professional education.
- (4) Engage in community restitution or service without compensation for a number of hours specified by the committee.
- (5) Submit to care, counseling, or treatment by a physician designated by the committee for a matter that is the basis for the probation.**

(b) The committee shall remove a limitation placed on a probationary ~~certificate~~ **license** if after a hearing the committee finds that the deficiency that caused the limitation has been remedied.

SECTION 18. IC 25-27.5-4-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 4. (a) The committee may grant a temporary ~~certification~~ **license** to an applicant who:

- (1) meets the qualifications for ~~certification~~ **licensure** under section 1 of this chapter except:
  - (A) for the taking of the **next scheduled** NCCPA examination; or
  - (B) if the applicant has taken the NCCPA examination and is awaiting the results; or
- (2) meets the qualifications for ~~certification~~ **licensure** under section 1 of this chapter but is awaiting the next scheduled meeting of the committee.

(b) A temporary ~~certification~~ **license** is valid until: ~~the earliest of the following:~~

- (1) the results of an applicant's examination are available; **and**
- (2) the committee makes a final decision on the applicant's request for a ~~certification~~ **license**.

**(c) The Indiana professional licensing agency shall immediately revoke a temporary license granted under this section upon notice to the Indiana professional licensing agency that the temporary license holder has failed the NCCPA examination. The committee may extend a temporary license at the discretion of and on the terms agreed upon by a majority vote of the members appointed to**

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the committee at the committee's next regularly scheduled meeting.

(c) (d) A physician assistant practicing under a temporary ~~certificate~~ license must practice with onsite physician supervision. ~~and, notwithstanding IC 25-27.5-5-4, may not dispense drugs or medical devices.~~

(d) (e) A physician assistant who notifies the ~~board~~ committee in writing **and returns the individual's wallet license and wall license issued under this article to the committee** may elect to place the physician assistant's ~~certification~~ license on an inactive status.

**(f) An individual who holds a license under this article and who practices as a physician assistant while:**

**(1) the individual's license has lapsed; or**

**(2) the individual is on inactive status under this section;**

**is considered to be practicing without a license and is subject to discipline under IC 25-1-9.**

SECTION 19. IC 25-27.5-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2006, SECTION 468, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 5. (a) A ~~certificate~~ license issued by the committee expires on a date established by the Indiana professional licensing agency under IC 25-1-5-4 in the next even-numbered year following the year in which the certificate was issued.

(b) An individual may renew a ~~certificate~~ license by paying a renewal fee on or before the expiration date of the ~~certificate~~ license.

(c) If an individual fails to pay a renewal fee on or before the expiration date of a ~~certificate~~ license, the ~~certificate~~ license becomes invalid **and must be returned to the committee.**

SECTION 20. IC 25-27.5-4-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 7. (a) An individual who is ~~certified~~ licensed under this chapter shall notify the committee in writing **and return the individual's wallet license and wall license to the committee** when the individual retires from practice.

(b) Upon receipt of the notice, the committee shall:

(1) record the fact the individual is retired; and

(2) release the individual from further payment of renewal fees.

SECTION 21. IC 25-27.5-5-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 1. (a) This chapter does not apply to the practice of other health care professionals set forth under IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(1) through IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(19).

**(b) This chapter does not allow the independent practice by a physician assistant of any of the activities of other health care professionals set forth under IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(1) through**

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1 **IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(19).**

2 **(c) This chapter does not exempt a physician assistant from the**  
 3 **requirements of IC 16-41-35-29.**

4 SECTION 22. IC 25-27.5-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. A physician assistant  
 6 must engage in a dependent practice with physician supervision. A  
 7 physician assistant may perform, **under the supervision of the**  
 8 **supervising physician**, the duties and responsibilities that are  
 9 delegated by the supervising physician **and that are within the**  
 10 **supervising physician's scope of practice, including prescribing and**  
 11 **dispensing drugs and medical devices. A patient may elect to be**  
 12 **seen, examined, and treated by the supervising physician.**

13 SECTION 23. IC 25-27.5-5-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 14 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 4. ~~(a) The board may~~  
 15 ~~adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to determine the appropriate use of~~  
 16 ~~prescription drugs by a physician assistant.~~

17 **(a) Except as provided in this section, a physician assistant may**  
 18 **prescribe, dispense, and administer drugs and medical devices or**  
 19 **services to the extent delegated by the supervising physician.**

20 **(b) A physician assistant may not prescribe, dispense, or**  
 21 **administer ophthalmic devices, including glasses, contact lenses,**  
 22 **and low vision devices.**

23 ~~(b)~~ **(c)** As permitted by the board, a physician assistant may use or  
 24 dispense only drugs prescribed or approved by the supervising  
 25 physician.

26 ~~(c)~~ Notwithstanding subsection ~~(b)~~, a physician assistant may not  
 27 dispense a scheduled substance listed under ~~IC 35-48-2.~~

28 **(d) A physician assistant may request, receive, and sign for**  
 29 **professional samples and may distribute professional samples to**  
 30 **patients if the samples are within the scope of the physician**  
 31 **assistant's prescribing privileges delegated by the supervising**  
 32 **physician.**

33 SECTION 24. IC 25-27.5-5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 5. A physician assistant  
 35 ~~certified licensed~~ under IC 25-27.5 shall:

36 (1) keep the physician assistant's ~~certificate~~ **license** available for  
 37 inspection at the primary place of business; and

38 (2) when engaged in the physician assistant's professional  
 39 activities, wear a name tag identifying the individual as a  
 40 physician assistant.

41 SECTION 25. IC 25-27.5-5-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 42 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: **Sec. 6. (a)** Except as provided in section 4(d) of this chapter, a supervising physician may delegate authority to a physician assistant to prescribe:

(1) legend drugs, except as provided in section 4(c) of this chapter; and

(2) medical devices (except ophthalmic devices, including glasses, contact lenses, and low vision devices).

(b) Any prescribing authority delegated to a physician assistant must be expressly delegated in writing by the physician assistant's supervising physician.

(c) A physician assistant who is delegated the authority to prescribe legend drugs or medical devices must do the following:

(1) Enter the following on each prescription form that the physician assistant uses to prescribe a legend drug or medical device:

(A) The signature of the physician assistant.

(B) The initials indicating the credentials awarded to the physician assistant by the NCCPA.

(C) The physician assistant's state license number.

(2) Comply with all applicable state and federal laws concerning prescriptions for legend drugs and medical devices.

(d) A supervising physician may delegate to a physician assistant the authority to prescribe only legend drugs and medical devices that are within the scope of practice of the licensed supervising physician or the physician designee.

(e) A physician assistant who is delegated the authority to prescribe controlled substances under subsection (a) must do the following:

(1) Obtain an Indiana controlled substance registration and a federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration.

(2) Enter the following on each prescription form that the physician assistant uses to prescribe a controlled substance:

(A) The signature of the physician assistant.

(B) The initials indicating the credentials awarded to the physician assistant by the NCCPA.

(C) The physician assistant's state license number.

(D) The physician assistant's federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) number.

(3) Comply with all applicable state and federal laws concerning prescriptions for controlled substances.

(f) A supervising physician may only delegate to a physician

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1 **assistant the authority to prescribe controlled substances that may**  
 2 **be prescribed within the scope of practice of the licensed**  
 3 **supervising physician or the physician designee.**

4 SECTION 26. IC 25-27.5-7-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 1. An individual may  
 6 not:

- 7 (1) profess to be a physician assistant;  
 8 (2) use the title "physician assistant", including the use of the title  
 9 by a physician who is not licensed under IC 25-22.5; or  
 10 (3) use the initials "P.A." or any other words, letters,  
 11 abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the  
 12 individual is a physician assistant certified under this article;  
 13 unless the individual is ~~certified~~ **licensed** under this article. However,  
 14 use of the initials "PA" by a public accountant who is authorized to use  
 15 the initials "PA" by IC 25-2.1-12-6 is not a violation of this section.

16 SECTION 27. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007] (a) **The definitions in**  
 17 **IC 25-27.5, as amended by this act, apply to this SECTION.**

18 (b) **A physician assistant who has a certificate issued under**  
 19 **IC 25-27.5, before amendment by this act, on June 30, 2007, is**  
 20 **considered to be licensed under IC 25-27.5, as amended by this act,**  
 21 **until the expiration of the certificate.**

22 (c) **After June 30, 2007, any reference in a rule to a certificate**  
 23 **issued by the committee shall be treated as a reference to a license**  
 24 **issued by the committee.**

25 (d) **This SECTION expires July 1, 2012.**

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